

62nd LEGISLATURE—REGULAR SESSION

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT—RESIDENCE
HOMESTEAD TAX EXEMPTION

S. J. R. No. 7

Proposing an amendment to Article VIII, Section 1-b, of the Texas Constitution, to provide that the various political subdivisions of the State may exempt not less than Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000) of the value of residence homesteads of all persons sixty-five (65) years of age or older from ad valorem taxes under certain conditions.

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

Section 1. That Article VIII, Section 1-b, of the Texas Constitution, be amended to read as follows:

"Section 1-b. (a) Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000) of the assessed taxable value of all residence homesteads as now defined by law shall be exempt from all taxation for all State purposes.

"(b) From and after January 1, 1973, the governing body of any county, city, town, school district, or other political subdivision of the State may exempt by its own action not less than Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000) of the assessed value of residence homesteads of persons sixty-five (65) years of age or older from all ad valorem taxes thereafter levied by the political subdivision. As an alternative, upon receipt of a petition signed by twenty percent (20%) of the voters who voted in the last preceding election held by the political subdivision, the governing body of the subdivision shall call an election to determine by majority vote whether an amount not less than Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000) as provided in the petition, of the assessed value of residence homesteads of persons sixty-five (65) years of age or over shall be exempt from ad valorem taxes thereafter levied by the political subdivision. Where any ad valorem tax has theretofore been pledged for the payment of any debt, the taxing officers of the political subdivision shall have authority to continue to levy and collect the tax against the homestead property at the same rate as the tax so pledged until the debt is discharged, if the cessation of the levy would impair the obligation of the contract by which the debt was created."

Sec. 2. The foregoing constitutional amendment shall be submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of this State at an election to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, 1972, at which election the ballots shall be printed to provide for voting for or against the proposition: "The constitutional amendment providing that the various political subdivisions of the State may exempt not less than Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000) of the value of residence homesteads of all persons sixty-five (65) years of age or older from ad valorem taxes under certain conditions.

Passed by the Senate on March 17, 1971: Yeas 26, Nays 2; May 10, 1971, Senate concurred in House amendments: Yeas 24, Nays 5; passed by the House, with amendments, on May 7, 1971: Yeas 129, Nays 2.

Signed by the Governor May 18, 1971.